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# Stenosis, Physiology and Medications are not enough: Vulnerable Plaque Must be identified

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A Teaching Affiliate  
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# Disclosure

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## **FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE:**

Grants/Research Support: LightLab Imaging/St. Jude Medical, Medtronic



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# What to treat/prevent?

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Angiographic stenosis → Interventionalists

Angina on exertion → Improves quality of life

AMI or SCD → Enormous benefit  
**Potentially**



# SCD in USA

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- 1000/day
- 1/1000 person year
- Men x3 > women
- 75% at home
- Etiology: 75% CAD ← Vulnerable Plaque



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**Can VP be identified ?**

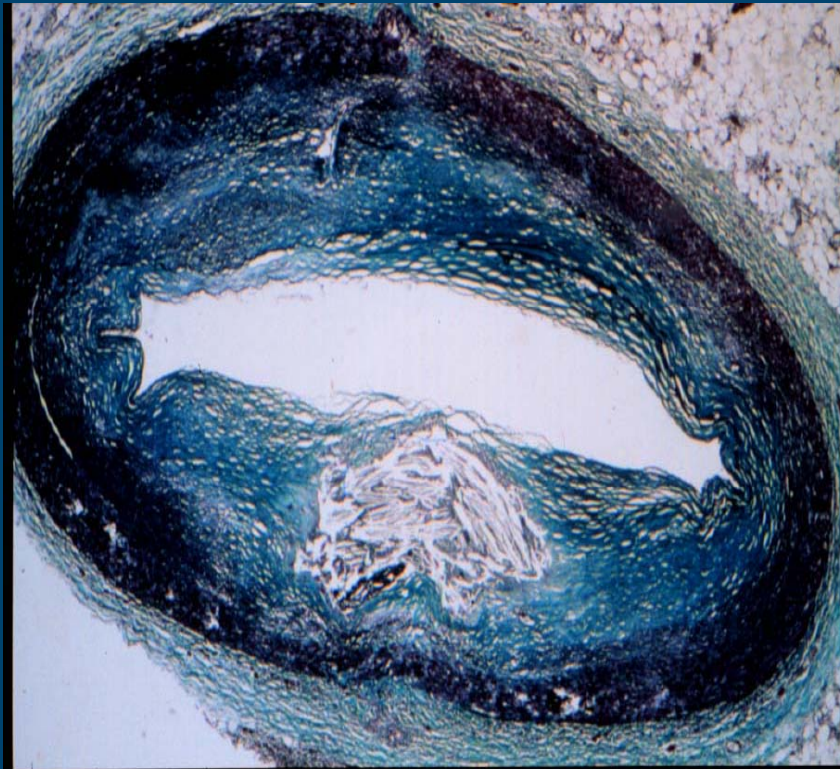


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# Vulnerable Plaque

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- Large lipid
- Thin fibrous cap
- High MΦ density
- Positive remodeling
- Inc vasa vasorum



# Intravascular Diagnostics for VP

Modality	Resolution	Penetration	Cap	Lipid	Inflam	Ca
IVUS	100 $\mu\text{m}$	good	+	+	-	+++
Angioscopy	100 $\mu\text{m}$	poor	+	++	-	-
<b>OCT</b>	<b>10 <math>\mu\text{m}</math></b>	<b>poor</b>	<b>+++</b>	<b>+++</b>	<b>++</b>	<b>+++</b>
Thermography	-	poor	-	-	++	-
Spectroscopy	-	poor	+	+++	++	++
IV MR	160 $\mu\text{m}$	good	+	++	+	++

# OCT: Ex Vivo Study Results

Fibrous	SENS	<b>.87</b>	PPV	<b>.88</b>
	SPEC	<b>.97</b>	NPV	<b>.96</b>
Calcific	SENS	<b>.95</b>	PPV	<b>1.0</b>
	SPEC	<b>1.0</b>	NPV	<b>.95</b>
Lipid	SENS	<b>.92</b>	PPV	<b>.81</b>
	SPEC	<b>.94</b>	NPV	<b>.97</b>

Interobserver  $k = 0.88$ , Intraobserver  $k = 0.91$

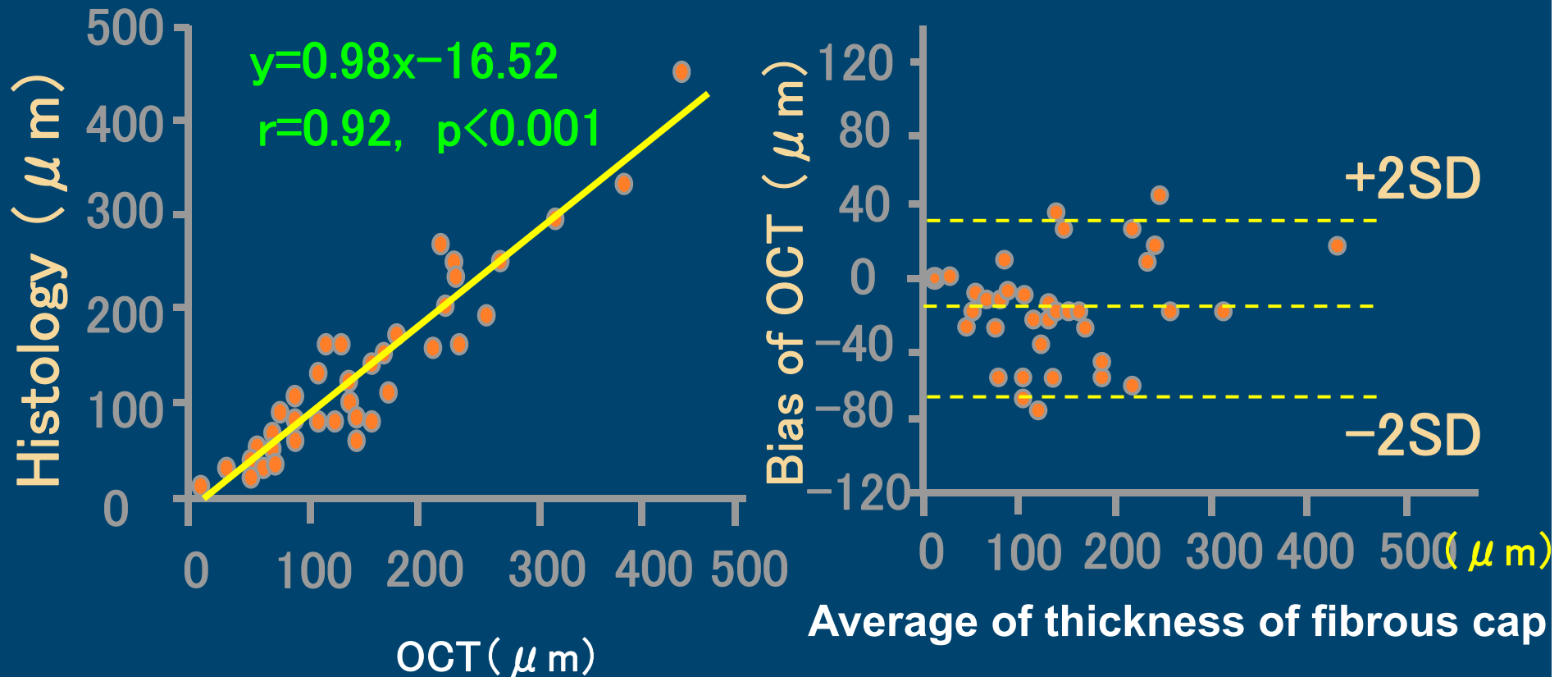
Yabushita, .. Jang, Bouma, Tearney. Circulation 2002



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# Fibrous Cap Thickness Histology vs OCT



Kume, Akasaka. Am Heart J . 152:755, 2006



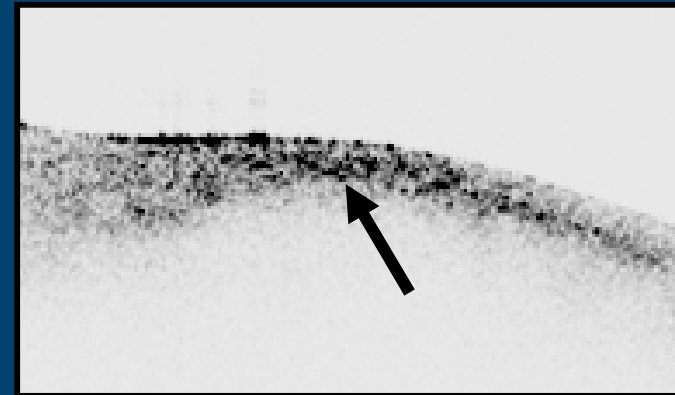
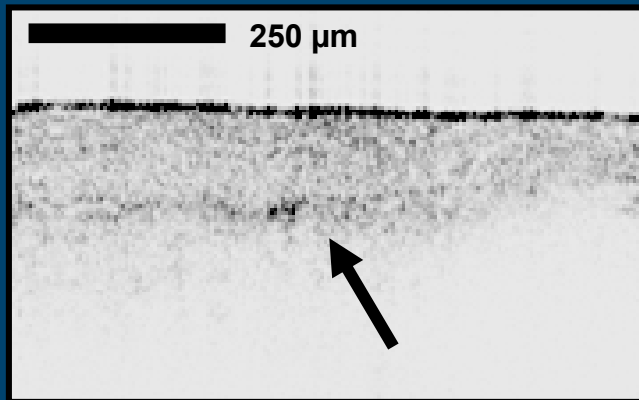
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# Macrophage Study

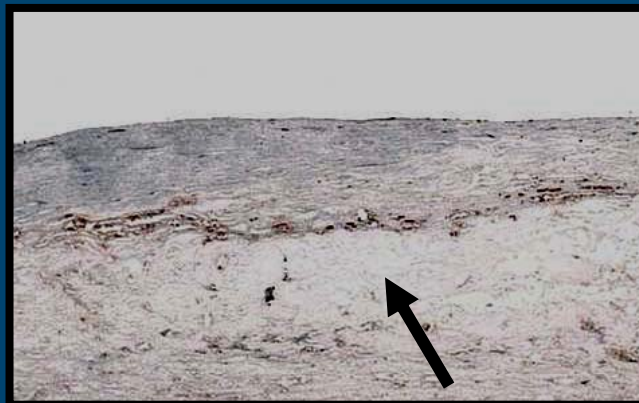
Low M $\phi$

High M $\phi$

OCT



CD68



# AMI v ACS v SAP

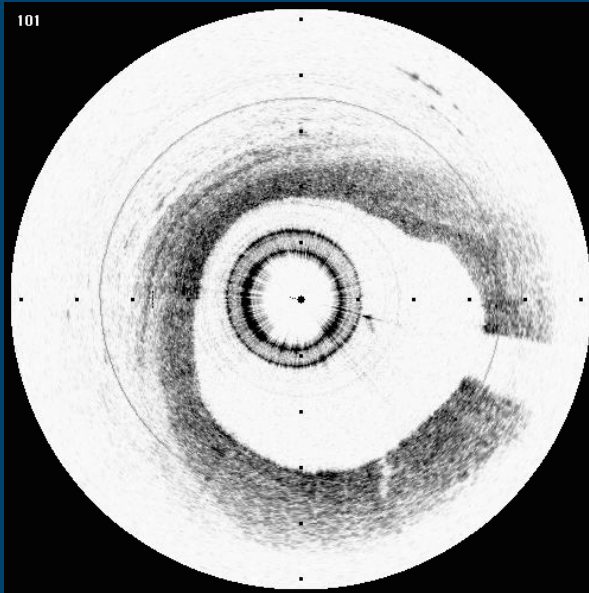
	<b>AMI</b> (n=20/30/35)	<b>ACS</b> (n=20/24/--)	<b>SAP</b> (n=17/31/20)
<b>LRP (%)</b>	<b>90/93/--</b>	<b>75/71/--</b>	<b>58/42/--</b>
<b>FCT (µm)</b>	<b>47/49/--</b>	<b>54/79/--</b>	<b>103/196/--</b>
<b>TCFA (%)</b>	<b>72/83/77</b>	<b>50/46/--</b>	<b>20/3/25</b>
<b>MΦ (%)</b>	<b>5.7 ± 1.4</b>	<b>5.9 ± 2.1</b>	<b>4.2 ± 1.7</b>

Jang 2005/Kubo 2007/Fujii 2008

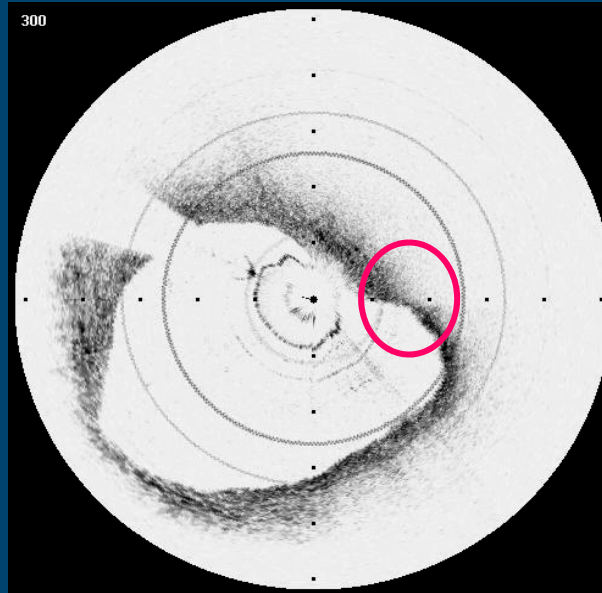


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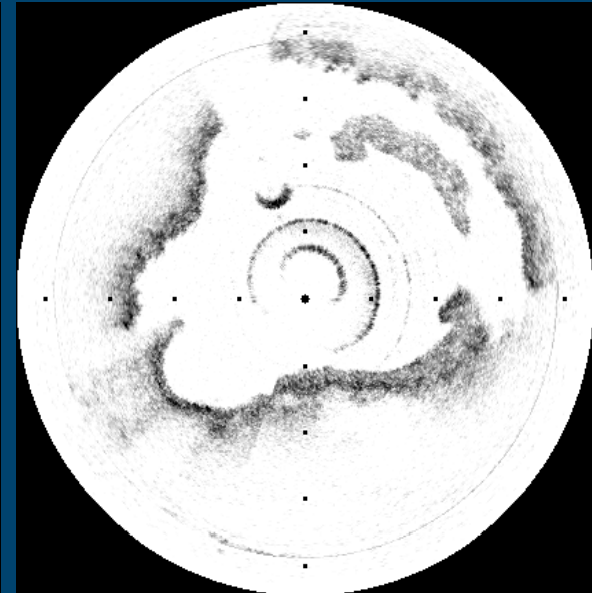
# TCFA (Thin Cap FibroAtheroma)



Stable Plaque



TCFA



Ruptured Plaque



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**Must VP be identified?**



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# The PROSPECT Trial (700 ACS pts)

3-vessel imaging post PCI: Culprit artery, followed by non-culprit arteries

Angiography (QCA of entire coronary tree)

IVUS

Virtual histology

Palpography (n= $\sim$ 350)

Proximal 6-8 cm of each coronary artery

Meds rec  
Aspirin  
Plavix 1yr  
Statin  
Repeat biomarkers  
@ 30 days, 6 months

F/U: 1 mo, 6 mo,  
1 yr, 2 yr,  
 $\pm$ 3-5 yrs

MSCT  
Substudy  
N=50-100

Repeat imaging  
in pts with events



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# PROSPECT: MACE

## 3-year follow-up, hierarchical

	All	Culprit lesion related	Non culprit lesion related	Indeterminate
<b>Cardiac death</b>	1.9% (12)	0.2% (1)	<b>0% (0)</b>	1.7% (11)
<b>Cardiac arrest</b>	0.3% (2)	0.3% (2)	<b>0% (0)</b>	0% (0)
<b>MI (STEMI or NSTEMI)</b>	2.7% (17)	1.7% (11)	<b>1.0% (6)</b>	0.2% (1)
Rehospitalization for unstable or progressive angina	15.4% (101)	10.4% (69)	10.7% (68)	0.8% (5)
<b>Composite MACE</b>	<b>20.4% (132)</b>	<b>12.9% (83)</b>	<b>11.6% (74)</b>	<b>2.7% (17)</b>
<b>Cardiac death, arrest or MI</b>	<b>4.9% (31)</b>	<b>2.2% (14)</b>	<b>1.0% (6)</b>	<b>1.9% (12)</b>

# PROSPECT: Implications

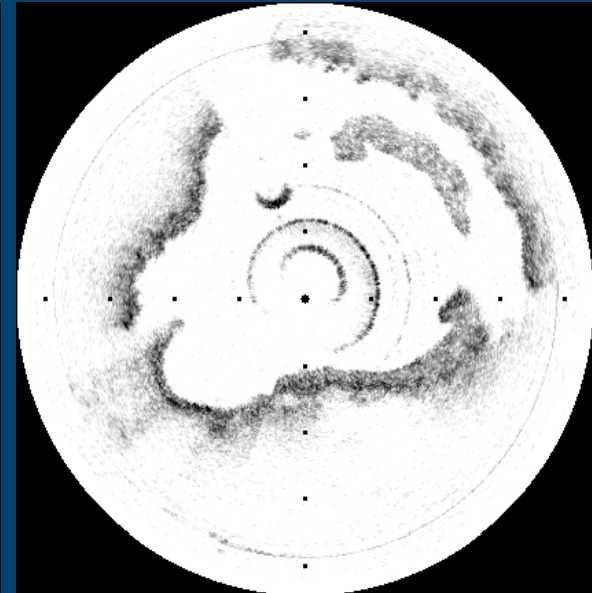
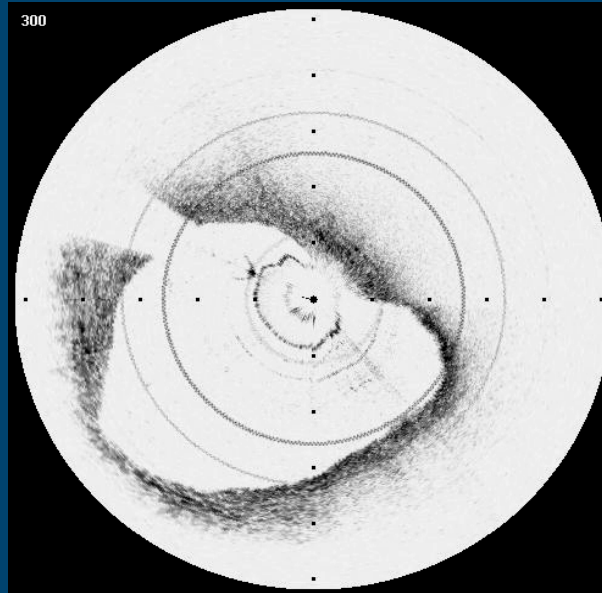
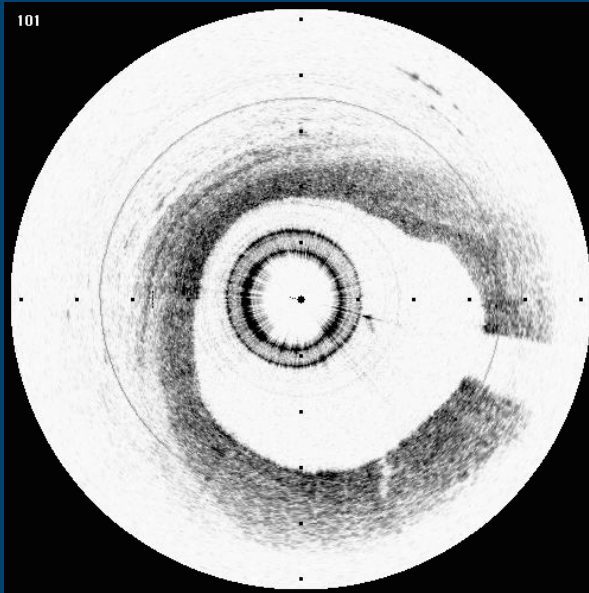
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- The relatively low prevalence of high-risk lesions (~1 in 5 pts), coupled with the fact that when they become symptomatic they usually present with angina and not death or MI, suggests that **3-vessel imaging to identify and prophylactically stent these lesions is not warranted** in ACS patients who are revascularized and treated with optimal medical therapy.
- Similarly, if a high risk non ischemia-producing lesion happens to be found (e.g. 3 year event rate >10%), since most patients present with angina, **prophylactic DES cannot be recommended.**





# TCFA



Stable Plaque

TCFA

Ruptured Plaque

Study Date  
April 2000

5 years later  
No MACE



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# Frequency of AMI

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- 59 cases with acute thrombus

41 Rupture → 4 AMI (19%)

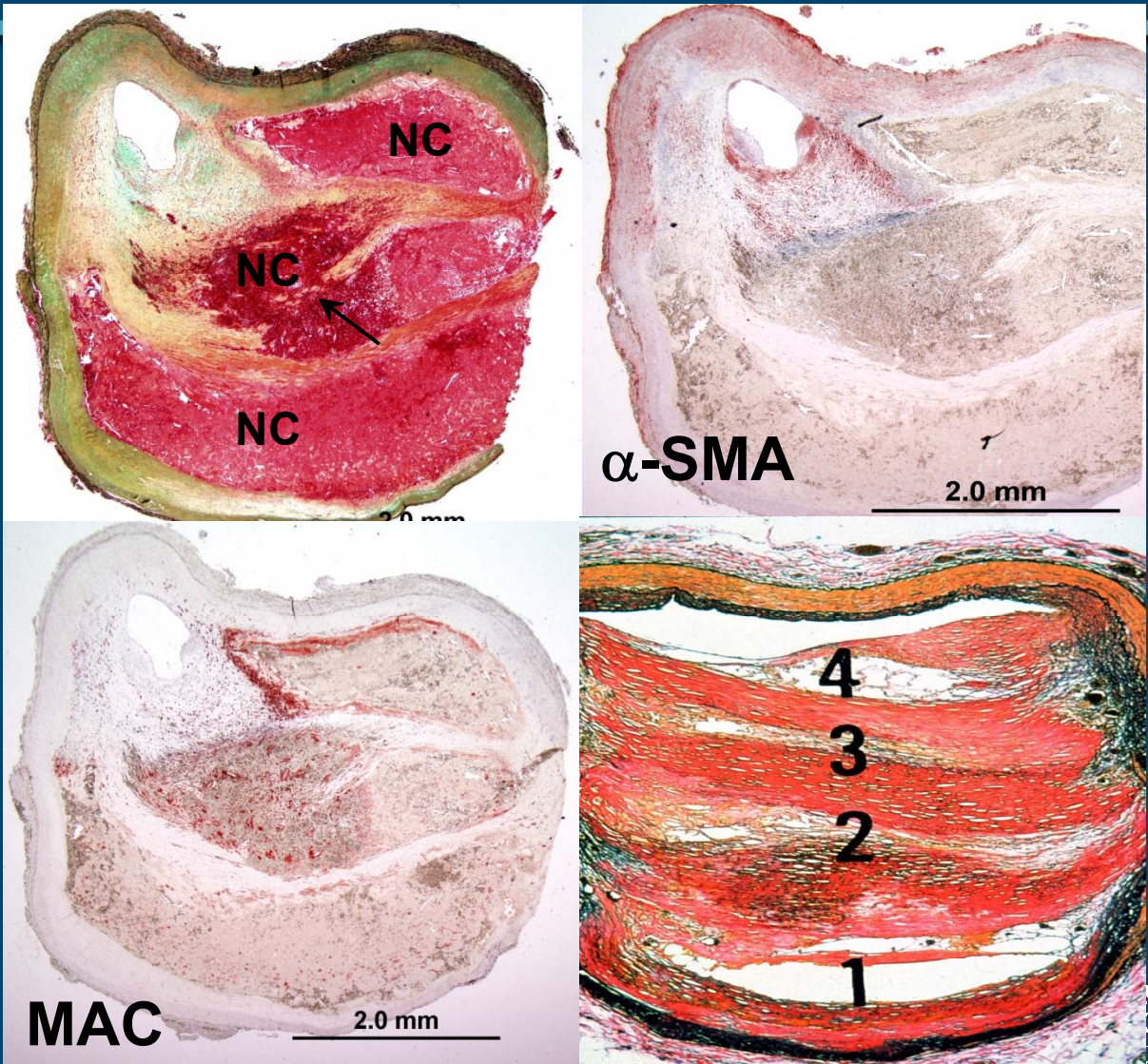
18 Erosion → 2 AMI (11%)

**Majority of plaque disruptions are silent!**

Burke A. NEJM 1997



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Courtesy to Dr M Sangiorgi

# Summary

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■ Can TCFA be identified? Yes

■ Must VP be identified? ??

However.....

one study

one modality



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# MGH OCT Registry

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- Target #: 3000 - 5000 patients
- Follow up: 5 years
- Start: June 1, 2010
- Sites: 20

<http://www.massgeneral.org/octregistry>



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# Participating PIs and Institutions

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## Australia

- OC Raffel: Brisbane
- H Lowe: Sydney
- P Balis: Melbourne

## China

- B Yu: Harbin Med Univ.
- S Lee: Univ. of Hong Kong

## USA

- IK Jang: MGH
- A Prasad: Mayo
- S Sharma: Mt. Sinai

## Japan

- K Mizuno: Tokyo
- S Uemura: Nara Univ.
- K Kakuta: Tsuchiura Kyodo
- T Ito: Iwate

## Korea

- SY Choi: Ajou
- YS Jang: Yonsei
- SJ Kim: Kyung Hee
- JM Cho: EW
- SJ Park: Asan

## Singapore

- S Chia: National Heart Center

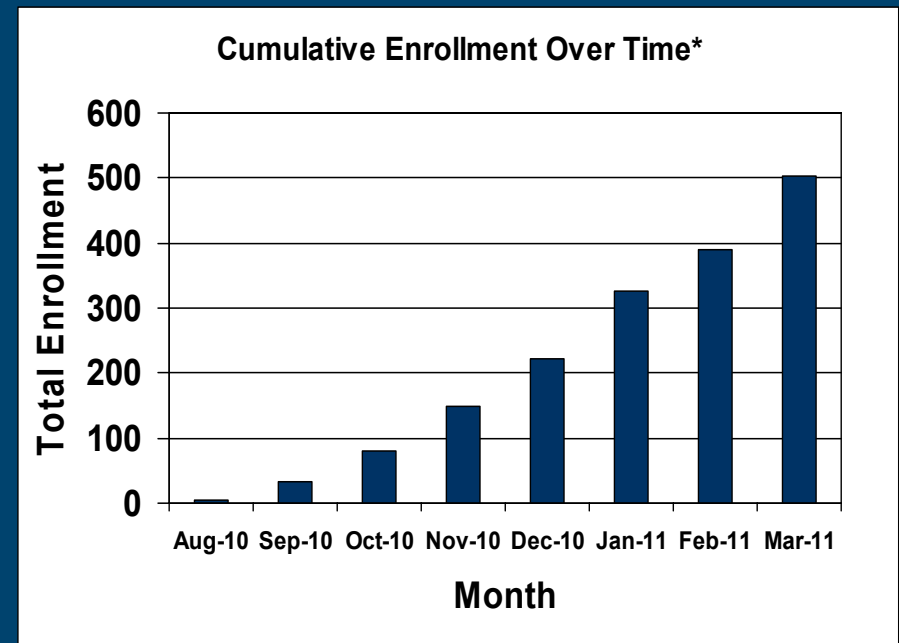
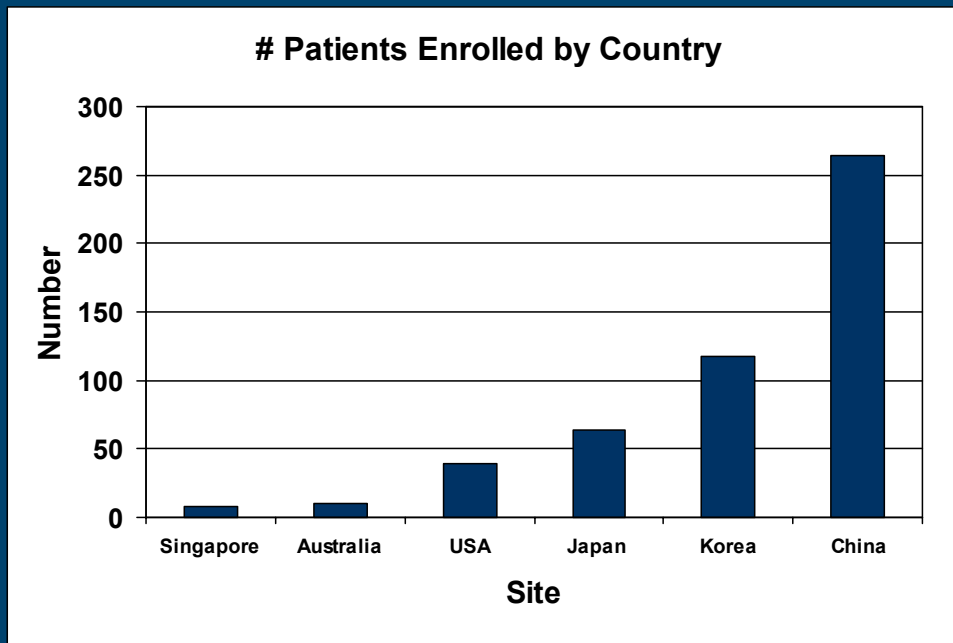


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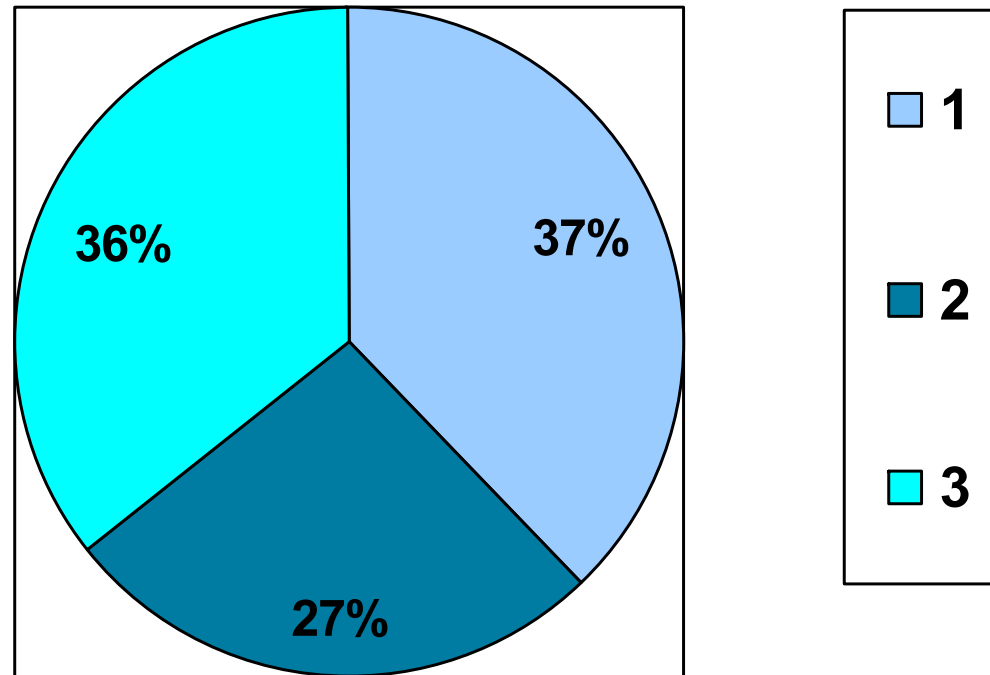
# Enrollment Overview

- 503 patients have been enrolled into the Registry from 6 countries



# Number of vessels imaged

# of Vessels Imaged





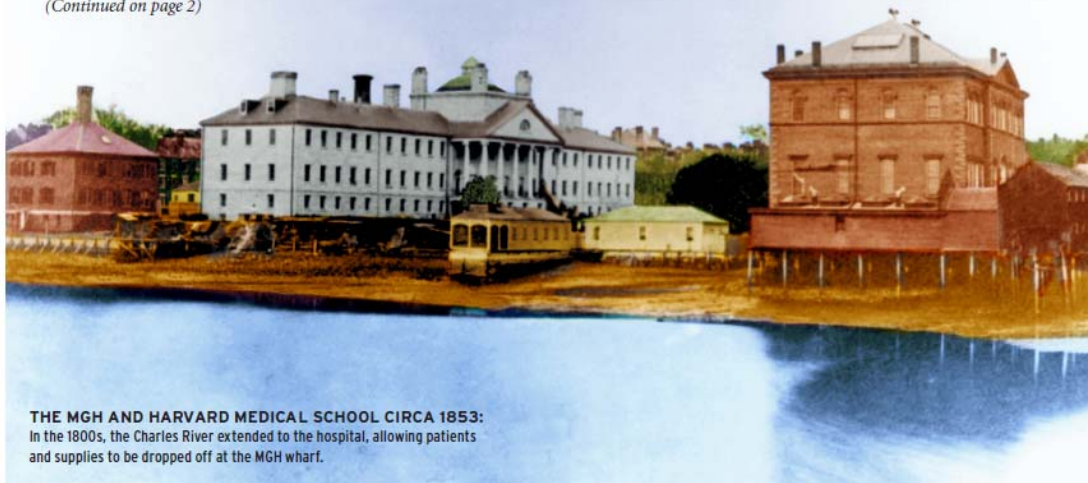
# Thank You



## *MGH history book to commemorate bicentennial*

**AS PART OF** the MGH's bicentennial celebrations, a commemorative book covering the hospital's unique beginnings and illustrious history will be published in 2011. "Something in the Ether, A Bicentennial History of Massachusetts General Hospital, 1811 to 2011," was written by author and publisher Webster Bull. Much of the content was drawn from interviews with longtime MGH staff and countless hours of research of historical records and archival material. The book is scheduled to be released in March and will be available at the MGH General Store and select booksellers.

*(Continued on page 2)*



**THE MGH AND HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL CIRCA 1853:**  
In the 1800s, the Charles River extended to the hospital, allowing patients and supplies to be dropped off at the MGH wharf.



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